

SENATE BILL NO. 462—COMMITTEE ON HUMAN  
RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

MARCH 24, 2003

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Creates Division of Minority Health within  
Department of Human Resources. (BDR 18-1061)

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; creating the Division of Minority Health within the Department of Human Resources; creating an Advisory Committee to the Division of Minority Health; 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 232 of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 17, inclusive, of this  
3 act.  
4     **Sec. 2.** *As used in sections 2 to 17, inclusive, of this act,*  
5 *unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined*  
6 *in sections 3 to 6, inclusive, of this act, have the meanings*  
7 *ascribed to them in those sections.*  
8     **Sec. 3.** *“Administrator” means the Administrator of the*  
9 *Division.*  
10    **Sec. 4.** *“Division” means the Division of Minority Health of*  
11 *the Department.*  
12    **Sec. 5.** *“Health care” includes mental health care.*  
13    **Sec. 6.** *“Minority group” means a racial or ethnic minority*  
14 *group.*



- 1     **Sec. 7.** *The purposes of the Division are to:*  
2     1. *Improve the quality of health care services for members of*  
3     *minority groups;*  
4     2. *Increase access to health care services for members of*  
5     *minority groups; and*  
6     3. *Disseminate information to and educate the public on*  
7     *matters concerning health care issues of interest to members of*  
8     *minority groups.*
- 9     **Sec. 8.** *1. In accomplishing its purposes, the Division shall:*  
10    (a) *Provide a central source of information for the use of the*  
11    *public concerning health care services for members of minority*  
12    *groups and health care issues of interest to those members;*  
13    (b) *Identify and use any available resources;*  
14    (c) *Develop and coordinate plans and programs to improve the*  
15    *quality of health care services for members of minority groups and*  
16    *to increase access to health care services for those members,*  
17    *including, without limitation, plans and programs that primarily*  
18    *serve local communities;*  
19    (d) *Advocate on behalf of members of minority groups for the*  
20    *improvement of the quality of health care services for those*  
21    *members and for increased access to health care services for those*  
22    *members;*  
23    (e) *Hold conferences and provide training concerning cultural*  
24    *diversity in the workplace for public and private entities that offer*  
25    *services in the field of health care, including, without limitation,*  
26    *providing recommendations and opportunities for training for*  
27    *such public and private entities to improve recruitment of*  
28    *members of minority groups;*  
29    (f) *Whenever possible, incorporate the use of bilingual*  
30    *communication in its programs and activities;*  
31    (g) *Publicize health care issues of interest to members of*  
32    *minority groups; and*  
33    (h) *Develop and carry out such other programs and activities*  
34    *as the Division deems appropriate.*
- 35    2. *In carrying out the duties set forth in subsection 1, the*  
36    *Division may seek assistance from and cooperate with a public or*  
37    *private entity.*
- 38    **Sec. 9.** *The Division may:*  
39    1. *Apply for any available grants and accept any available*  
40    *gifts, grants, appropriations or donations, and use any such gifts,*  
41    *grants, appropriations or donations to carry out its purposes;*  
42    2. *Contract with a public or private entity to assist in carrying*  
43    *out its purposes; and*  
44    3. *Adopt such regulations as are necessary to carry out the*  
45    *provisions of sections 2 to 17, inclusive, of this act.*



1     **Sec. 10.** *The Administrator must be appointed on the basis of*  
2 *his education, training, experience, demonstrated abilities and*  
3 *interest in the provision of health care services to members of*  
4 *minority groups and in related programs.*

5     **Sec. 11.** *The Administrator shall:*

- 6     1. *Ensure that the purposes of the Division are carried out;*
- 7     2. *Direct and supervise all the technical and administrative*  
8 *activities of the Division;*
- 9     3. *Report to the Governor on all matters concerning the*  
10 *administration of the Division;*
- 11    4. *Attend the meetings of the Advisory Committee created*  
12 *pursuant to section 15 of this act, serve as secretary at those*  
13 *meetings and keep minutes of the proceedings;*
- 14    5. *Request and consider the advice of the Advisory Committee*  
15 *concerning matters of policy;*
- 16    6. *Serve as the contracting officer for the Division to receive*  
17 *money from the Federal Government or any other source; and*
- 18    7. *Act as liaison between the Division, members of minority*  
19 *groups, and public and private entities offering health care*  
20 *services primarily to those members or offering health care*  
21 *information of interest to those members.*

22     **Sec. 12.** *On or before March 1 of each odd-numbered year,*  
23 *the Administrator shall submit a report to the Governor and the*  
24 *Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to*  
25 *the Legislature. The report must outline the manner in which the*  
26 *Division has accomplished its purposes during the biennium,*  
27 *including, without limitation, information concerning the*  
28 *activities, findings, and recommendations of the Division as they*  
29 *relate to health care services for members of minority groups and*  
30 *to health care issues of interest to those members.*

31     **Sec. 13.** *The Administrator may:*

- 32    1. *Within the limits of legislative appropriations, appoint such*  
33 *professional, technical, clerical and operational staff as necessary*  
34 *to carry out his duties;*
- 35    2. *Perform any lawful act that he considers necessary or*  
36 *desirable to carry out the purposes of his office; and*
- 37    3. *Delegate the performance of any of his powers or duties*  
38 *required pursuant to sections 2 to 17, inclusive, of this act to any*  
39 *person within the Division.*

40     **Sec. 14.** 1. *The Administrator may, within the limits of*  
41 *legislative appropriations and other available money, award a*  
42 *grant of money to a person for use consistent with the provisions*  
43 *of sections 2 to 17, inclusive, of this act.*

44    2. *Before the Administrator may award a grant pursuant to*  
45 *subsection 1, he shall adopt regulations that set forth the:*



1 (a) Procedure by which a person may apply for a grant from  
2 the Administrator;

3 (b) Criteria that the Administrator will consider in determining  
4 whether to award a grant; and

5 (c) Procedure by which the Administrator will distribute the  
6 money that the Division receives pursuant to subsection 1 of  
7 section 9 of this act.

8 **Sec. 15.** 1. There is hereby created in the Division an  
9 Advisory Committee consisting of:

10 (a) At least 13 members appointed by the Governor;

11 (b) One member of the Senate appointed by the Majority  
12 Leader of the Senate; and

13 (c) One member of the Assembly appointed by the Speaker of  
14 the Assembly.

15 2. When appointing a member to the Advisory Committee,  
16 consideration must be given to whether the members appointed to  
17 the Advisory Committee reflect the ethnic and geographical  
18 diversity of this state.

19 3. Each member of the Advisory Committee serves a term of 2  
20 years. A member may be reappointed for an additional term of 2  
21 years in the same manner as the original appointment. A vacancy  
22 occurring in the membership of the Advisory Committee must be  
23 filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

24 4. At its first meeting and annually thereafter, the Advisory  
25 Committee shall elect a chairman from among its members.

26 **Sec. 16.** 1. Each member of the Advisory Committee who is  
27 not an employee of the State of Nevada is entitled to receive a  
28 salary of not more than \$80 per day, as fixed by the Administrator  
29 in consultation with the Advisory Committee, for each day spent  
30 on the business of the Advisory Committee. Each member of the  
31 Advisory Committee who is an employee of the State of Nevada  
32 serves without additional compensation. Each member of the  
33 Advisory Committee is entitled to receive the per diem allowance  
34 and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees  
35 generally. A claim for a payment pursuant to this section must be  
36 made on a voucher approved by the Administrator and paid as  
37 other claims against the State are paid.

38 2. Each member of the Advisory Committee who is an  
39 employee of the State of Nevada or a local government must be  
40 relieved from his duties without loss of his regular compensation  
41 so that he may prepare for and attend meetings of the Advisory  
42 Committee and perform any work necessary to carry out the duties  
43 of the Advisory Committee in the most timely manner practicable.  
44 A state agency or local governmental entity may not require an  
45 employee who is a member of the Advisory Committee to make up



1 *time or take annual vacation or compensatory time for the time*  
2 *that he is absent from work to carry out his duties as a member of*  
3 *the Advisory Committee.*

4 **Sec. 17. The Advisory Committee shall:**

5 *1. Advise the Administrator and Division on all matters*  
6 *concerning the manner in which the purposes of the Division are*  
7 *being carried out;*

8 *2. Review the manner in which the Division uses any gifts,*  
9 *grants, donations or appropriations to carry out the purposes of*  
10 *the Division and make appropriate recommendations; and*

11 *3. Review the reports to be submitted by the Administrator to*  
12 *the Governor or the Federal Government and the report required*  
13 *pursuant to section 12 of this act, and make appropriate*  
14 *recommendations.*

15 **Sec. 18.** NRS 232.290 is hereby amended to read as follows:

16 232.290 As used in NRS 232.290 to 232.465, inclusive, *and*  
17 *sections 2 to 17, inclusive, of this act,* unless the context requires  
18 otherwise:

19 1. "Department" means the Department of Human Resources.

20 2. "Director" means the Director of the Department.

21 **Sec. 19.** NRS 232.300 is hereby amended to read as follows:

22 232.300 1. The Department of Human Resources is hereby  
23 created.

24 2. The Department consists of a Director and the following  
25 divisions:

26 (a) Aging Services Division.

27 (b) Health Division.

28 (c) Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services.

29 (d) Welfare Division.

30 (e) Division of Child and Family Services.

31 (f) Division of Health Care Financing and Policy.

32 *(g) Division of Minority Health.*

33 3. The Department is the sole agency responsible for  
34 administering the provisions of law relating to its respective  
35 divisions.

36 **Sec. 20.** NRS 232.320 is hereby amended to read as follows:

37 232.320 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the  
38 Director:

39 (a) Shall appoint, with the consent of the Governor,  
40 administrators of the divisions of the Department, who are  
41 respectively designated as follows:

42 (1) The Administrator of the Aging Services Division;

43 (2) The Administrator of the Health Division;

44 (3) The State Welfare Administrator;



1 (4) The Administrator of the Division of Child and Family  
2 Services; and

3 (5) The Administrator of the Division of Health Care  
4 Financing and Policy.

5 (b) Shall administer, through the divisions of the Department,  
6 the provisions of chapters 210, 423, 424, 425, 427A, 432A to 442,  
7 inclusive, 446 to 450, inclusive, of NRS, NRS 127.220 to 127.310,  
8 inclusive, 422.001 to 422.410, inclusive, 422.580, 432.010 to  
9 432.139, inclusive, 444.003 to 444.430, inclusive, and 445A.010 to  
10 445A.055, inclusive, and all other provisions of law relating to the  
11 functions of the divisions of the Department, but is not responsible  
12 for the clinical activities of the Health Division or the professional  
13 line activities of the other divisions.

14 (c) Shall, after considering advice from agencies of local  
15 governments and nonprofit organizations which provide social  
16 services, adopt a master plan for the provision of human services in  
17 this state. The Director shall revise the plan biennially and deliver a  
18 copy of the plan to the Governor and the Legislature at the  
19 beginning of each regular session. The plan must:

20 (1) Identify and assess the plans and programs of the  
21 Department for the provision of human services, and any  
22 duplication of those services by federal, state and local agencies;

23 (2) Set forth priorities for the provision of those services;

24 (3) Provide for communication and the coordination of those  
25 services among nonprofit organizations, agencies of local  
26 government, the State and the Federal Government;

27 (4) Identify the sources of funding for services provided by  
28 the Department and the allocation of that funding;

29 (5) Set forth sufficient information to assist the Department  
30 in providing those services and in the planning and budgeting for the  
31 future provision of those services; and

32 (6) Contain any other information necessary for the  
33 Department to communicate effectively with the Federal  
34 Government concerning demographic trends, formulas for the  
35 distribution of federal money and any need for the modification of  
36 programs administered by the Department.

37 (d) May, by regulation, require nonprofit organizations and state  
38 and local governmental agencies to provide information to him  
39 regarding the programs of those organizations and agencies,  
40 excluding detailed information relating to their budgets and payrolls,  
41 which he deems necessary for his performance of the duties  
42 imposed upon him pursuant to this section.

43 (e) Has such other powers and duties as are provided by law.

44 2. The Governor shall appoint the *administrators of the*  
45 *following divisions, who serve at the pleasure of the Governor:*



- 1     **(a) *The*** Administrator of the Division of Mental Health and
- 2     Developmental Services.
- 3     **(b) *The Administrator of the Division of Minority Health.***
- 4     **Sec. 21.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2003.

