

Amendment No. 921

Senate Amendment to Senate Bill No. 443	(BDR S-145)
Proposed by: Senate Committee on Finance	
Amends: Summary: Yes Title: Yes Preamble: No Joint Sponsorship: No Digest: Yes	

Adoption of this amendment will REMOVE all appropriations from S.B. 443.

ASSEMBLY ACTION			Initial and Date	SENATE ACTION			Initial and Date		
Adopted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lost	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Adopted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lost	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Concurred In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Concurred In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Receded	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Receded	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) *blue bold italics* is new language in the original bill; (2) variations of green bold underlining is language proposed to be added in this amendment; (3) ~~red strikethrough~~ is deleted language in the original bill; (4) ~~purple double strikethrough~~ is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment; (5) orange double underlining is deleted language in the original bill proposed to be retained in this amendment.

KCR/BJE



Date: 6/1/2017

S.B. No. 443—Makes an appropriation for the transfer of contracted sign language interpreter positions to state employee positions. (BDR S-145)



SENATE BILL NO. 443—COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS, VETERANS AND ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS)

MARCH 27, 2017

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY— ~~[Makes an appropriation for the transfer of contracted]~~ **Requires the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services to employ sign language interpreter positions to state employee positions. (BDR S 145) interpreters. (BDR 38-145)**

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

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

AN ACT ~~[making an appropriation for the transfer of four sign language interpreter positions contracted with the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services to state employee positions.]~~ **relating to interpreters; requiring the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services, to the extent money is available, to employ interpreters for a certain program;** and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services to develop and administer a program which includes: (1) providing devices for telecommunication to persons who are deaf and persons with impaired speech or hearing; (2) the establishment of centers for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing; and (3) making interpreters available, when possible, to the Executive, Judicial and Legislative Departments of State Government to assist those departments in providing access to persons who are deaf or hard of hearing. (NRS 427A.797) Section 3 of this bill requires the Aging and Disability Services Division, to the extent money is available, to employ one or more interpreters in the unclassified service of the State pursuant to the program developed by the Division. Section 4 of this bill provides for the establishment of the salaries for the interpreter positions.

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

1 **Section 1.** ~~[There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the~~
2 ~~Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human~~
3 ~~Services the sum of \$278,953.28 for the transfer of four sign language interpreter~~
4 ~~positions contracted with the Division to state employee positions beginning at~~
5 ~~grade 37, step 5.] (Deleted by amendment.)~~

6 **Sec. 2.** ~~[Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by section 1 of this~~
7 ~~act must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2019, by the entity to~~
8 ~~which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the~~
9 ~~appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of~~
10 ~~the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after~~
11 ~~September 20, 2019, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or~~
12 ~~the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be~~
13 ~~reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 20, 2019.] (Deleted by~~
14 ~~amendment.)~~

15 **Sec. 3.** NRS 427A.797 is hereby amended to read as follows:

16 427A.797 1. The Division shall develop and administer a program whereby:

17 (a) Any person who is a customer of a telephone company which provides
18 service through a local exchange or a customer of a company that provides wireless
19 phone service and who is certified by the Division to be deaf or to have severely
20 impaired speech or hearing may obtain a device for telecommunication or other
21 assistive technology capable of serving the needs of such persons at no charge to
22 the customer beyond the rate for basic service;

23 (b) Any person who is deaf or has severely impaired speech or hearing may
24 communicate by telephone, including, without limitation, a wireless phone, or other
25 means with other persons through a dual-party relay system or other assistive
26 technology; and

27 (c) Interpreters are made available, when possible, to the Executive, Judicial
28 and Legislative Departments of State Government to assist those departments in
29 providing access to persons who are deaf or hard of hearing. The Division shall, to
30 the extent money is available, employ one or more interpreters in the unclassified
31 service of the State for the purposes of this paragraph.

32 2. The program developed pursuant to subsection 1 must include the
33 establishment of centers for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing that provide
34 services which must include, without limitation:

35 (a) Facilitating the provision and distribution of devices for telecommunication
36 and other assistive technology to persons with impaired speech or hearing;

37 (b) Assisting persons who are deaf or have severely impaired speech or hearing
38 in accessing assistive devices, including, without limitation, hearing aids,
39 electrolarynxes and devices for telecommunication and other assistive technology;

40 (c) Expanding the capacity for service using devices for telecommunication
41 and other assistive technology in areas where there is a need for such devices and
42 technology and services for persons with impaired speech or hearing are not
43 available;

44 (d) Providing instruction in language acquisition to persons determined by the
45 center to be eligible for services; and

46 (e) Providing programs designed to increase access to education, employment
47 and health and social services.

1 3. A surcharge of not more than 8 cents per month is hereby imposed on each
2 access line of each customer to the local exchange of any telephone company
3 providing such lines in this State and on each personal wireless access line of each
4 customer of any company that provides wireless phone services in this State. The
5 surcharge must be used to:

6 (a) Cover the costs of the program;

7 (b) Fund the centers for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing established
8 pursuant to subsection 2; and

9 (c) Cover the costs incurred by the Division to carry out the provisions of
10 chapter 656A of NRS that are not covered by the civil penalties received by the
11 Division pursuant to NRS 656A.800.

12 ➤ The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada shall establish by regulation the
13 amount to be charged. Those companies shall collect the surcharge from their
14 customers and transfer the money collected to the Commission pursuant to
15 regulations adopted by the Commission.

16 4. The Account for Services for Persons With Impaired Speech or Hearing is
17 hereby created within the State General Fund and must be administered by the
18 Division. Any money collected from the surcharge imposed pursuant to subsection
19 3 must be deposited in the State Treasury for credit to the Account. The money in
20 the Account may be used only:

21 (a) For the purchase, maintenance, repair and distribution of the devices for
22 telecommunication and other assistive technology, including the distribution of
23 such devices and technology to state agencies and nonprofit organizations;

24 (b) To establish and maintain the dual-party relay system;

25 (c) To reimburse telephone companies and companies that provide wireless
26 phone services for the expenses incurred in collecting and transferring to the Public
27 Utilities Commission of Nevada the surcharge imposed by the Commission;

28 (d) For the general administration of the program developed and administered
29 pursuant to subsection 1;

30 (e) To train persons in the use of the devices for telecommunication and other
31 assistive technology;

32 (f) To fund the centers for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing established
33 pursuant to subsection 2; and

34 (g) To cover the costs incurred by the Division to carry out the provisions of
35 chapter 656A of NRS that are not covered by the civil penalties received by the
36 Division pursuant to NRS 656A.800.

37 5. For the purposes of this section:

38 (a) "Device for telecommunication" means a device which is used to send
39 messages through the telephone system, including, without limitation, the wireless
40 phone system, which visually displays or prints messages received and which is
41 compatible with the system of telecommunication with which it is being used.

42 (b) "Dual-party relay system" means a system whereby persons who have
43 impaired speech or hearing, and who have been furnished with devices for
44 telecommunication, may relay communications through third parties to persons
45 who do not have access to such devices.

46 **Sec. 4. The Division of Human Resource Management of the Department**
47 **of Administration shall examine the duties and responsibilities of the**
48 **interprefer positions made available pursuant to the program developed by the**
49 **Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and**
50 **Human Services pursuant to NRS 427A.797, as amended by section 3 of this**
51 **act, and submit to the Interim Finance Committee a list of those duties and**
52 **responsibilities and a recommended salary for the positions. The Interim**

1 **Finance Committee shall review the duties and responsibilities of the positions**
2 **and establish a salary for the positions.**

3 ~~Sec. 3.~~ **Sec. 5.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2017.