Linking Research to Policy: Taking the First Steps

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- The Research Division can help formulate your ideas for bill draft requests (BDRs) and assist with a wide range of policy analysis.

- In addition to serving as the general information arm of the Legislature, our staff provides a wide range of services, including Committee staffing, publishing legislative documents, and responding to requests from a variety of sources (legislators, general public, businesses, educational institutions, state and local government agencies, etc.)

- We are statutorily obligated to maintain strict confidentiality. All requests are kept confidential unless you tell us otherwise.
How we can help you between now and February 4, 2013:

Bill Draft Requests (BDRs)

Examples of approaches to handle bill draft requests (BDR):

- Issue-Based/Issue-Generated BDR;
- Problem-Related/Constituent Requested BDR.

Other Research Division assistance between now and the 2013 Legislative Session
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Issue-Based/Issue-Generated BDR

~Traffic Safety~

We can help you narrow down what traffic safety issue you want to address:

Seat belts? Motorcycle helmets? Cell phones?
Speed limits? DUI? Driver Education?

What are the legislative needs? Amending existing law? New statutory language?

What has been done before?

Are there national trends toward a specific policy?

What statistics are available to support your issue?

Is there model legislation from other states?
Driver Education (Graduated Driver Licensing for Teen Drivers)

- What laws do we currently have in Nevada?
- Other states/how does Nevada compare?
- Model legislation – Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, National Safety Council, and National Transportation Safety Board.
- Is model legislation feasible? What about an incremental approach? Offer more and accept less?
- Implementation considerations, overall costs, and who would be impacted (students, school districts, DMV, etc.)
- Other considerations – we can help you with the right questions to ask so you have a thorough policy analysis.
- We help you with your legislation DURING session, too.
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Problem-Related/Constituent Requested BDR

~Protection of Social Security Numbers~

* You have identified or a constituent has identified a problem that needs to be addressed in legislation.
* What is the scope of the problem? Medical records? Public documents/records? Financial documents?
* How has your constituent been impacted and would he or she be willing to share his or her story?
* We will look for previous state and federal legislation on the issue (e.g. drivers’ license applications, registering to vote, school records, other licenses, etc.).
* How have business or certain trade groups been impacted (realtors, mortgage and title companies, etc.)?
Problem-Related/Constituent Requested BDR

~Protection of Social Security Numbers (continued)~

- We can check, on your behalf, with government agencies and others to get their view on the problem (maybe they have a solution?). Confidentiality must be considered.
- Should there be a working group of impacted parties?
- What have other states done to address the problem?
- Policy questions and analysis – we can help frame your issue so you can better explain the potential solutions to the problem.

NOTE: Some policy solutions take time. Both examples took more than one legislative session to finalize into workable outcomes. We can work with you to evaluate the progress of implementation and address future policy and legislative needs.
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Other Research Division assistance between now and the 2013 Legislative Session

- Background information and policy analysis on dozens of topics;
- Summary of interim committee activities;
- Assistance and guidance regarding legislative procedures and process;
- Review of national, state, and local issues;
- Historical research – what happened with certain legislative issues or state policies/programs in the past;
- Information and statistics regarding your district;

In summary, the Research Division provides legislators and others with all types of information and policy analysis that is not specifically fiscal or legal in nature.
Questions?