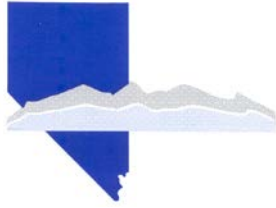


STATE OF NEVADA  
**NEVADA SILVER HAIR ED LEGISLATIVE FORUM**



Legislative Building  
401 S. Carson Street  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4747

John A. Yacenda, Ph.D., M.P.H., P.A.H.M., President  
Reba June Burton, Vice President  
Joann M. Bongiorno, Treasurer  
Mary D. Roberts, Secretary



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Contact:  
Patrick B. Ashton, Forum Coordinator  
Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau  
(775) 684-6825

December 26, 2018

The Honorable Brian Sandoval  
Governor of the State of Nevada  
101 North Carson Street, Suite 1  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4786

Richard Whitley, M.S., Director  
Department of Health and Human Services  
4126 Technology Way, Suite 100  
Carson City, Nevada 89706-2013

Dear Governor Sandoval and Director Whitley:

The Nevada Silver Hair Ed Legislative Forum was created to identify and act upon issues of importance to aging persons as set forth in *Nevada Revised Statutes* 427A.320. At its final meeting on October 9, 2018, the Forum voted unanimously to send you a letter urging an increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates for various services and programs including, but not limited to, adult day care facilities, augmented personal care services at community-based residential facilities, in-home personal care assistance services, and services provided at skilled nursing homes. Current Medicaid reimbursement rates: (1) do not adequately cover certain service expenses, which leads to difficulties with hiring new staff and maintaining current staff; and (2) contribute to an ongoing caregiver crisis in the state, adversely affecting seniors dependent on caregiving services.

During the past interim, the Forum heard testimony in support of revising and increasing Medicaid reimbursement rates. Testimony indicated that federal requirements are increasing the cost of business for personal care agencies; therefore, increased reimbursement rates would help personal care agencies to offset these costs. Furthermore, Nevada's reimbursement rates for adult day care services are comparatively low, which disincentivizes businesses from developing more facilities

Governor Sandoval and Director Whitley

Page 2

December 26, 2018

in the state. Testimony also showed that overall low Medicaid reimbursement rates result in low caregiver salaries, which deters potential employees from working in the industry and leads to high staff turnover.

I appreciate your time and consideration of this recommendation. Please do not hesitate to contact me or the Forum Coordinator, Patrick B. Ashton ([patrick.ashton@lcb.state.nv.us](mailto:patrick.ashton@lcb.state.nv.us)), if you have any questions.

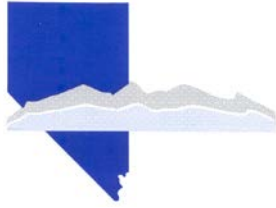
Sincerely,

John A. Yacenda, Ph.D., M.P.H., P.A.H.M.,  
Forum President  
Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum

PA/jk: G190166

cc: Governor-Elect Steve Sisolak  
Joyce Woodhouse, Chair, Senate Committee on Finance  
Maggie Carlton, Chair, Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

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**NEVADA SILVER HAIR ED LEGISLATIVE FORUM**



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Contact:  
Patrick B. Ashton, Forum Coordinator  
Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau  
(775) 684-6825

December 26, 2018

Senator Joyce Woodhouse  
Chair, Senate Committee on Finance  
246 Garfield Drive  
Henderson, Nevada 89074-1027

Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton  
Chair, Assembly Committee on Ways and Means  
5540 East Cartwright Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89110-3802

Dear Chair Woodhouse and Chair Carlton:

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Chair Woodhouse and Chair Carlton

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December 26, 2018

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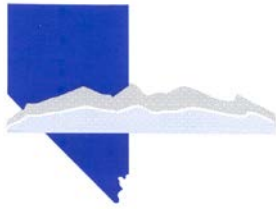
Sincerely,

John A. Yacenda, Ph.D., M.P.H., P.A.H.M.,  
Forum President  
Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum

PA/jk: G190166

cc: Governor Brian Sandoval  
Governor-Elect Steve Sisolak  
Richard Whitley, M.S., Director, Department of Health and Human Services

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Contact:  
Patrick B. Ashton, Forum Coordinator  
Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau  
(775) 684-6825

January 7, 2019

The Honorable Steve Sisolak  
Governor of the State of Nevada  
101 North Carson Street, Suite 1  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4786

Dear Governor Sisolak:

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Governor Sisolak

Page 2

January 7, 2019

I appreciate your time and consideration of this recommendation. Please do not hesitate to contact me or the Forum Coordinator, Patrick B. Ashton ([patrick.ashton@lcb.state.nv.us](mailto:patrick.ashton@lcb.state.nv.us)), if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

John A. Yacenda, Ph.D., M.P.H., P.A.H.M.,  
Forum President  
Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum

PA/jk: G190166

cc: Joyce Woodhouse, Chair, Senate Committee on Finance  
Maggie Carlton, Chair, Assembly Committee on Ways and Means  
Richard Whitley, M.S., Director, Department of Health and Human Services  
Former Governor Brian Sandoval