STATE OF NEVADA NEVADA SILVER HAIRED 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



Contact:

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

December 26, 2018

The Honorable Brian Sandoval Governor 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 Haired 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 expressing concern about the limited numbers of Adult Day Care (ADC) facilities in Nevada.

According to the Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Department of Health and Human Services, ADC facilities are establishments operated and maintained to provide temporary or permanent care during the day for aged or infirm persons. Adult day care assists frail and elderly individuals to live in the community without being institutionalized. For family caregivers, ADC is an important respite care service that helps them to live with and assist their loved ones in their own home. Without sufficient ADC facilities, family caregivers may not receive adequate breaks, which can cause a higher stress on the family system, an increase in burnout rates, and seniors ending up living outside of their homes and away from their families, such as in nursing homes.

Governor Sandoval and Director Whitley Page 2 December 26, 2018

The Forum heard testimony that there is an insufficient number of ADC centers in most of the state's counties to cover the need. Current low reimbursement rates and strict regulations disincentivize the development of new for-profit ADC centers. Testimony also suggested the following course of action that would assist ADC providers to develop and open more ADC centers throughout the state:

- 1. Develop and implement policy positions that financially support ADC providers;
- 2. Convene a group of Nevada ADC providers to review the regulations governing the ADC industry; and
- 3. Create a plan to modify regulations determined by the ADC industry to be overly burdensome.

I appreciate your time and consideration of this recommendation and hope that the recommended course of action will benefit not only the seniors in our community, but also family caregivers of any frail or disabled individual. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Forum Coordinator, Patrick B. Ashton (patrick.ashton@lcb.state.nv.us).

Sincerely,

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

PA/jk: G190238

cc: Governor-Elect Steve Sisolak

STATE OF NEVADA NEVADA SILVER HAIRED 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



Contact:

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

January 7, 2019

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

Dear Governor Sisolak:

The Nevada Silver Haired 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 expressing concern about the limited numbers of Adult Day Care (ADC) facilities in Nevada.

According to the Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Department of Health and Human Services, ADC facilities are establishments operated and maintained to provide temporary or permanent care during the day for aged or infirm persons. Adult day care assists frail and elderly individuals to live in the community without being institutionalized. For family caregivers, ADC is an important respite care service that helps them to live with and assist their loved ones in their own home. Without sufficient ADC facilities, family caregivers may not receive adequate breaks, which can cause a higher stress on the family system, an increase in burnout rates, and seniors ending up living outside of their homes and away from their families, such as in nursing homes.

The Forum heard testimony that there is an insufficient number of ADC centers in most of the state's counties to cover the need. Current low reimbursement rates and strict regulations disincentivize the development of new for-profit ADC centers. Testimony also suggested the following course of action that would assist ADC providers to develop and open more ADC centers throughout the state:

Governor Sisolak Page 2 January 7, 2019

- 1. Develop and implement policy positions that financially support ADC providers;
- 2. Convene a group of Nevada ADC providers to review the regulations governing the ADC industry; and
- 3. Create a plan to modify regulations determined by the ADC industry to be overly burdensome.

I appreciate your time and consideration of this recommendation and hope that the recommended course of action will benefit not only the seniors in our community, but also family caregivers of any frail or disabled individual. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Forum Coordinator, Patrick B. Ashton (patrick.ashton@lcb.state.nv.us).

Sincerely,

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

PA/jk: G190238

cc: Richard Whitley, M.S., Director, Department of Health and Human Services Former Governor Brian Sandoval