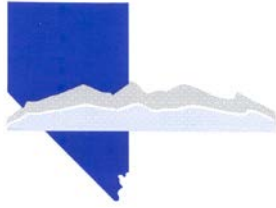


STATE OF NEVADA
NEVADA SILVER HAIR ED LEGISLATIVE FORUM



Legislative Building
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John A. Yacenda, Ph.D., M.P.H., P.A.H.M., President
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December 26, 2018

Senator Julia Ratti
Chair, Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
P.O. Box 4228
Sparks, NV 89432-4228

Assemblyman Michael C. Sprinkle
Chair, Assembly Committee on Health and Human Services
P.O. Box 51202
Sparks, NV 89435-1202

Dear Chair Ratti and Chair Sprinkle:

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 the Forum's support for bill draft request (BDR) 53–169 concerning the flexibility of caregiver sick leave. The BDR is a redraft of Assembly Bill 394, known as the “Caregiver Flexibility Sick Leave Bill,” which did not pass during the 2017 Legislative Session. The BDR requires a private employer to provide sick leave benefits to employees for absences due to illness, injury, medical appointments, or other authorized medical needs for employees’ family members. It was requested by the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs during the 2017–2018 Interim.

Family members of frail and elderly citizens are often in charge of their care. By supporting this bill, the Forum hopes to alleviate some of the burden that family caregivers carry every day. Based on testimony, the Caregiver Flexibility Sick Leave Bill would potentially assist over 350,000 caregivers in Nevada, many of whom must find the balance between their full-time jobs and assisting and caring for a loved one. The bill would allow employees to use their earned sick

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leave for caregiving time and may also reduce their fears of job loss due to caring for their aging parents. Additionally, it benefits seniors and individuals who require care to remain living at home and may prevent institutionalization.

I appreciate your time and consideration of this recommendation and hope the benefit of this bill will help not only family caregivers of seniors in our community, but anyone else who provides personal care for a loved one in our state. 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