TO: Chairwoman Spearman and Members of the Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections  
FROM: Elisa Cafferata, President & CEO, Nevada Advocates for Planned Parenthood Affiliates  
RE: Support for SB 375: a bill to modernize voter registration  
DATE: April 2, 2013

Nevada Advocates for Planned Parenthood Affiliates (NAPPA) supports Senate Bill 375 (SB 375), a bill to modernize and improve voter registration in Nevada. We also support the conceptual amendment brought by sponsor Senator Segerblom to improve the process of automating voter registration at a wide array of government agencies. SB 375 will propel our voter registration system into the 21st century and in doing so allow for greater civic participation in the Silver State.

Nevada Advocates for Planned Parenthood Affiliates is the lobbying, education and political arm for Planned Parenthood Affiliates in Nevada. NAPPA works with coalition partners and activists to pass laws that benefit Nevada’s women and their families, and to educate the community about issues of importance to women and family health.

NAPPA works to register Nevadans to vote, get them involved in elections, and keep them involved with the legislative process. SB 375 speaks directly to our core mission by making voter registration more accessible to all Nevadans. SB 375, as modified by the sponsor’s amendment, does this by expanding registration opportunities at multiple state agencies and automating the transmission of voter data to election officials. As an organization that serves women and families that regularly interact with state agencies, we support the amendment’s purpose to empower the families we serve.

SB 375 also includes several other provisions to make getting and staying registered to vote in Nevada more convenient and accessible. The bill mandates portable voter registration within Nevada, meaning that once a citizen registers to vote, their registration moves with them as they move within the state. We live in a highly mobile society and this is an important step to ensuring that once a citizen takes the responsibility to register, they stay registered to vote. The bill also expands online voter registration to all voters statewide, and allows them to update their registration, check for errors, and find their nearest polling location – all on one website.

Senate Bill 375 is a nonpartisan, common-sense proposal that increases both voter participation and election integrity. Modernizing the voting system will make it easier for Nevadans to register and stay registered to vote. We urge you to support SB 375 and vote yes to preserve, protect, and expand the right to vote in Nevada.