

Assembly Bill No. 141—Assemblymen Thompson, Araujo, Carrillo, Neal, Monroe-Moreno; Benitez-Thompson, Brooks, Bustamante Adams, Diaz, Jauregui, Joiner, McCurdy II, Ohrenschall and Sprinkle

Joint Sponsors: Senators Cancela, Ford, Spearman; and Woodhouse

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to state departments; revising provisions relating to the organizational structure and purposes of the Office of Minority Health; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

Existing law creates the Office of Minority Health in the Office for Consumer Health Assistance of the Department of Health and Human Services. (NRS 232.474) If sufficient money is available, existing law authorizes the Director of the Department to appoint a Manager to oversee the Office. (NRS 232.477) **Sections 1, 3, 4 and 8** of this bill change the name of the Office of Minority Health to the Office of Minority Health and Equity. **Section 4** also moves the Office from within the Office for Consumer Health Assistance within the Department to instead be an office within the Department. **Section 5** of this bill provides that the Manager of the Office serves at the pleasure of the Director of the Department and serves in the unclassified service of the State.

Existing law states that the purposes of the Office are to improve access to quality health care for certain racial and ethnic minority groups and to disseminate information and educate the public on certain health care issues relating to these minority groups. (NRS 232.474) **Section 2** of this bill expands the definition of “minority group” for purposes of provisions relating to the Office to include certain additional minority groups. **Section 4** adds to the purposes of the Office that the Office may provide recommendations for changes in policy and engage in advocacy on behalf of minority groups with respect to certain health issues.

Existing law also creates an Advisory Committee within the Office, composed of nine members appointed by the State Board of Health. (NRS 232.482) **Section 9** of this bill expires the terms of office of the current members of the Advisory Committee on July 1, 2017. **Section 7** of this bill requires the Director of the Department and the State Board of Health to appoint nine voting members to a new Advisory Committee comprised of certain stakeholders. **Section 7** also requires the Legislative Commission to appoint a Legislator to serve on the Advisory Committee as an ex officio, nonvoting member. **Section 9** makes the initial terms of the members of the Advisory Committee, except the Legislator, staggered terms of 1 or 2 years, with subsequent terms of 2 years.

Existing law requires the Manager of the Office, if appointed, to serve as secretary to the Advisory Committee. (NRS 232.478) **Section 6** of this bill removes this requirement and instead requires the Manager to provide administrative support to the Committee as necessary.



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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** NRS 232.471 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
232.471 “Manager” means the Manager of the Office of  
Minority Health ~~{of the Office for Consumer Health Assistance of  
the Department}~~ *and Equity*.

**Sec. 2.** NRS 232.472 is hereby amended to read as follows:

232.472 **1.** “Minority group” means ~~{a}~~ :

(a) *A racial or ethnic minority group* ~~{;}~~;

(b) *A group of persons with disabilities;*

(c) *A group of persons that share the same sexual orientation;*

*or*

(d) *A group of persons whose gender-related identity,  
appearance, expression or behavior is different than that assigned at  
birth.*

**2.** *As used in this section, “sexual orientation” means having  
or being perceived as having an orientation for heterosexuality,  
homosexuality or bisexuality.*

**Sec. 3.** NRS 232.473 is hereby amended to read as follows:

232.473 “Office” means the Office of Minority Health ~~{of the  
Office for Consumer Health Assistance}~~ *and Equity* of the  
Department.

**Sec. 4.** NRS 232.474 is hereby amended to read as follows:

232.474 The Office of Minority Health *and Equity* is hereby  
created within ~~{the Office for Consumer Health Assistance of}~~  
the Department. The purposes of the Office of Minority Health *and  
Equity* are to:

1. Improve the quality of health care services for members of  
minority groups;

2. Increase access to health care services for members of  
minority groups; ~~{and}~~

3. Disseminate information to and educate the public on  
matters concerning health care issues of interest to members of  
minority groups ~~{;}~~ *and*

**4.** *Develop recommendations for changes in policy and  
advocate on behalf of minority groups to carry out the provisions  
of subsections 1 and 2.*



**Sec. 5.** NRS 232.477 is hereby amended to read as follows:

232.477 **1.** The Director shall, to the extent that money is available for that purpose, appoint or designate a Manager of the Office ~~†~~ **who:**

**(a) Serves at the pleasure of the Director; and**

**(b) Is in the unclassified service of the State.**

**2.** The Manager must be appointed on the basis of his or her education, training, experience, demonstrated abilities and interest in the provision of health care services to members of minority groups and in related programs.

**Sec. 6.** NRS 232.478 is hereby amended to read as follows:

232.478 The Manager shall:

**1.** Ensure that the purposes of the Office are carried out;

**2.** Direct and supervise all the technical and administrative activities of the Office;

**3.** Attend the meetings of the Advisory Committee ; ~~†; serve as secretary at those meetings and keep minutes of those meetings;†~~

**4. Provide administrative support to the Advisory Committee as necessary to carry out the duties of the Advisory Committee;**

**5.** Request and consider the advice of the Advisory Committee concerning matters of policy;

~~†~~ **6.** Serve as the contracting officer for the Office to receive money from the Federal Government or any other source; and

~~†~~ **7.** Act as liaison between the Office, members of minority groups, and public and private entities offering health care services primarily to those members or offering health care information of interest to those members.

**Sec. 7.** NRS 232.482 is hereby amended to read as follows:

232.482 **1.** There is hereby created in the Office an Advisory Committee consisting of nine **voting** members appointed by the **Department and the** State Board of Health.

**2. The Director of the Department shall appoint three members who have an interest in health issues relating to minority groups.**

**3. The State Board of Health shall appoint:**

**(a) Three members representing each geographic region of this State, including one member who resides in southern Nevada, one member who resides in northern Nevada and one member who resides in rural Nevada;**

**(b) One member who is a representative of a nonprofit organization located in this State;**

**(c) One provider of health care in this State; and**

**(d) One member of the public at large.**



**4. One Legislator who is appointed by the Legislative Commission shall serve on the Advisory Committee in an ex officio, nonvoting capacity.**

~~12-1~~ **5.** When appointing a member to the Advisory Committee, consideration must be given to whether the members appointed to the Advisory Committee reflect the ethnic and geographical diversity of this State.

~~13-1~~ **6.** The term of each member of the Advisory Committee is 2 years. A member may be reappointed for an additional term of 2 years in the same manner as the original appointment. A vacancy occurring in the membership of the Advisory Committee must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

~~14-1~~ **7.** At its first meeting and annually thereafter, the Advisory Committee shall elect a Chair from among its members.

**8. As used in this section, "provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.**

**Sec. 8.** NRS 439.518 is hereby amended to read as follows:

439.518 1. Within the limits of available money, the Division shall establish the Advisory Council on the State Program for Wellness and the Prevention of Chronic Disease to advise and make recommendations to the Division concerning the Program.

2. The Administrator shall appoint to the Advisory Council the following 13 voting members:

(a) The Chief Medical Officer or the designee of the Chief Medical Officer;

(b) The Superintendent of Public Instruction or the designee of the Superintendent;

(c) One representative of the health insurance industry;

(d) One provider of health care;

(e) One representative of the Nevada Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance or its successor organization;

(f) Three representatives of organizations committed to the prevention and treatment of chronic diseases;

(g) One registered dietitian;

(h) One representative who is a member of a racial or ethnic minority group appointed from a list of persons submitted to the Administrator by the Advisory Committee of the Office of Minority Health ~~{within the Office for Consumer Health Assistance}~~ **and Equity** of the Department;

(i) One representative of private employers in this State who has experience in matters relating to employment and human resources;

(j) One representative of a local health authority; and



(k) One representative of the Nevada System of Higher Education from a list of persons submitted to the Administrator by the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada.

3. The Legislative Commission shall appoint to the Advisory Council the following two voting members:

(a) One member of the Senate; and

(b) One member of the Assembly.

4. A majority of the voting members of the Advisory Council may appoint nonvoting members to the Advisory Council.

**Sec. 9.** 1. The terms of the current members of the Advisory Committee appointed pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 232.482, as that section existed before July 1, 2017, expire on July 1, 2017.

2. As soon as practicable after July 1, 2017, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services and the State Board of Health shall appoint the new members required pursuant to subsections 2 and 3 of NRS 232.482, as amended by section 7 of this act, to the Advisory Committee.

3. As soon as practicable after July 1, 2017, the Legislative Commission shall appoint the ex officio, nonvoting member required pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 232.482, as amended by section 7 of this act, to the Advisory Committee for a 2-year term.

4. In making the appointments described in subsection 2, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services and the State Board of Health shall appoint the new members to staggered terms of 1 and 2 years. After these initial terms, members shall serve for terms of 2 years.

5. As used in this section, "Advisory Committee" means the Advisory Committee created pursuant to NRS 232.482.

**Sec. 10.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2017.

